

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S8493–S8553

Measures Introduced: Seven bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 1981–1987, and S. Res. 347. **Pages S8547–48**

Measures Passed:

Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act: Senate passed H.R. 2845, to amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for enhanced safety and environmental protection in pipeline transportation, to provide for enhanced reliability in the transportation of the Nation's energy products by pipeline. **Page S8552**

United States Commission on International Religious Freedom Reform and Reauthorization Act: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2867, to reauthorize the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S8552–53

Reid (for Durbin) Amendment No. 1461, to limit appointments to the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom to 2 2-year terms, to authorize employees of the Commission who have filed a discrimination complaint under section 717 of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to complete such proceedings, and to clarify that travel by members of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom is subject to the Federal Travel Regulation and the Department of State Standardized Regulations. **Pages S8552–53**

Measures Considered:

Balanced Budget Joint Resolutions—Agreement: Senate began consideration of S.J. Res. 10, proposing a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and S.J. Res. 24, proposing a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution of the United States. **Pages S8507–40**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the joint resolu-

tions at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Wednesday, December 14, 2011, under the previous order.

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Rule XIV H.R. 3630—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding the lack of receipt of the papers from the House of Representatives with respect to H.R. 3630, to provide incentives for the creation of jobs, it be in order for the bill to be considered read for the first time and placed on the Legislative Calendar under the Heading “Bills and Joint Resolutions Read the First Time.” **Page S8553**

Messages from the House: **Page S8545**

Measures Referred: **Page S8545**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S8545**

Measures Read the First Time: **Page S8545**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S8545**

Executive Communications: **Pages S8545–47**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S8547**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S8548–49**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S8549–51**

Additional Statements: **Pages S8543–45**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S8551–52**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S8552**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:34 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, December 14, 2011. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S8553.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

MF HOLDINGS INVESTIGATION

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded a hearing to examine MF Global bankruptcy, after receiving testimony from Jill E. Sommers, Commissioner, Commodity Futures Trading Commission; former Senator Jon S. Corzine,

Henri J. Steenkamp, and Bradley Abelow, all of MF Holdings Limited, and James W. Giddens, Securities Investor Protection Act Liquidation of MF Global, Inc., all of New York, New York; Roger Hupfer, Freeland Bean and Grain, Inc., Freeland, Michigan; Jeffrey Hainline, Advanced Trading Inc., Bloomington, Illinois; Clinton J. Blew, Mid Kansas Cooperative Association, Moundridge; Terrence A. Duffy, CME Group, Inc., Chicago, Illinois; and Dean Tofteland, Luverne, Minnesota.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Maurice A. Jones, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary, and Carol J. Galante, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and Thomas Hoenig, of Missouri, to be Vice Chairperson and a Member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) part II, after receiving testimony from Steve A. Linick, Inspector General, Federal Housing Finance Agency.

HOMEOWNERS HARMED BY FORECLOSURES

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation and Community Development concluded a hearing to examine helping homeowners harmed by foreclosures, focusing on ensuring accountability and transparency in foreclosure reviews, after receiving testimony from Julie Williams, First Senior Deputy Comptroller, and Chief Counsel, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury; Alys Cohen, National Consumer Law Center, Boston, Massachusetts; David C. Holland, Rust Consulting, Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota; Paul Leonard, Financial Services Roundtable, Anthony B. Sanders, George Mason University Mercatus Center, and Ann Kenyon, Deloitte and Touche LLP, all of Washington, D.C.; and Konrad Alt, Promontory Financial Group, San Francisco, California.

OUR NATION'S WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Water and Wildlife concluded a hearing to examine our nation's water infrastructure, focusing on challenges and opportunities, after receiving testimony from James A. Hanlon, Director, Office of Wastewater Management, Office of Water, Environmental Protection Agency; Joe Freeman, Oklahoma Water Resources Board Financial Assistance Division Chief, Oklahoma City; Gregory E. DiLoreto, American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), Washington, D.C.; Theodore E. Scott, Stormwater Consulting Inc., Hunt Valley, Maryland; and Van Richey, American Cast Iron Pipe Company, Birmingham, Alabama.

CHILD ABUSE

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Subcommittee on Children and Families concluded a hearing to examine child abuse, focusing on protection, prevention, intervention, and deterrence, after receiving testimony from Erin Sullivan Sutton, Minnesota Department of Human Services Assistant Commissioner for Children and Family Services, St. Paul; Sheldon Kennedy, Respect Group Inc., Alberta, Canada; Michelle Collins, National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, Alexandria, Virginia; Frank P. Cervone, Support Center for Child Advocates, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Robert W. Block, American Academy of Pediatrics, Tulsa, Oklahoma; and Teresa Huizar, National Children's Alliance, Washington, D.C.

NOMINATION

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Paul J. Watford, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Feinstein, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.